

Future Dates

Annual General Meeting – 8 May at Otley Civic Centre 8.00pm

Annual Dinner- 6 June at Otley Golf Club

Autumn Lecture – 18 October

Catalogue of the Society's Collections

The catalogue (see flyer enclosed) will also be available at the Society's meetings and dinner.

Data Protection Act

Members' names and addresses are held on computer for the production of address labels. This information is confidential and will not be issued to any outside organisation. If, however, you object to your details being so held, please contact the Membership Secretary in writing.

Hon. Curator: James Lomax M.A., Temple Newsam House, Leeds LS15 OAE.

Tel: 0113 264 7321

Hon. Secretary: Simon R.B. Stell LL.B., Last Cawthra Feather, 11-19 Westgate, Shipley
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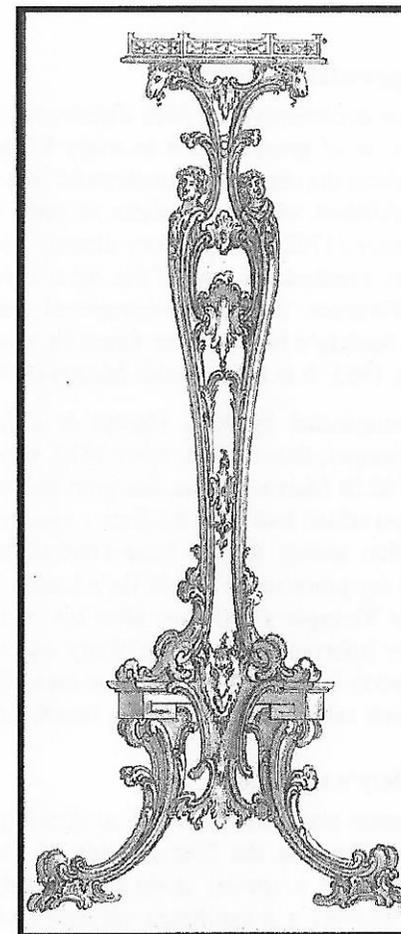
Hon. Treasurer: John B. Holdsworth, 74 Riverside Park, Otley, LS21 2RW. Tel: 01943 465711

Hon. Membership Secretary: Tony Lumb, 2 Montpellier Gardens, Harrogate HG1 2TF.

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The Chippendale Society

Chairperson: Pat Lofthouse



NEWSLETTER No 86

February 2000



Amazing new Chippendale discoveries !

Two fascinating new documents have been discovered on the art market in London which will be of great interest to every Chippendale enthusiast. The first is an exquisite drawing for a candlestand (see cover), dating from about 1760 and published with three others as plate CXLV in the third edition of the *Director* (1762). The Society already owns the drawing for another very similar candlestand, one of the other three illustrated in the same plate in the *Director*. This newly-discovered drawing has the same provenance as the Society's having been found in a copy of the *Director* sold at Christie's in 1961. It is for sale with Messrs Carlton Hobbs.

The second (communicated by John Hardy) is a letter from Thomas Chippendale the Younger, dated 4 November 1813, which complains of his eviction from 60 – 62 St Martin's Lane, the premises which his father had acquired in 1754 and which had been the firm's headquarters for nearly 60 years. He writes that owing to 'the base conduct of Lord Salisbury's steward I have lost my premises in St Martin's Lane'. Not much is known of Chippendale the Younger's activities after his bankruptcy in 1804 so this is valuable new information. Lord Salisbury was the ground landlord of much of the property in the St Martin's Lane area. The letter is included in a forthcoming book sale at Christie's, King Street, London.

Report on the Society's activities

On 27th October some sixty members met at Arthington Village Hall to hear a fascinating lecture on the *Lost Houses of Yorkshire* by Edward Waterson who has made a special study of this subject and published several books. He showed a magnificent collection of slides, poignantly illustrating some of the vanished glories of Yorkshire, and explaining the reasons for their disappearance: fire, neglect, vandalism and punitive taxation. Fortunately none of the nine Yorkshire houses known to have been furnished by Chippendale were among them.

A *Study Day* was held at Temple Newsam on 30th November when the Hon Curator gave a lecture on *Thomas Chippendale: Master Craftsman and Entrepreneur*. After lunch it was followed by a tour of the collections when members were able to handle the drawings, documents and other ephemera owned by the Society. We then had an 'over-the-ropes' tour of the furniture at Temple Newsam with a chance to see, among other things, the inside of the great Library Writing Table from Harewood, and to witness the 'pop-up' mechanism of the Society's new 'Musick Desk' from Nostell Priory.

We hope to arrange more of these Study Days in the future: please look out for them in the Newsletter.

FORTHCOMING EVENT

With the kind permission of the Earl and Countess of Harewood and the Harewood House Trustees members of the Society have been invited to attend the first **Private View** of the exhibition

The Art of Thomas Chippendale: Master Furniture Maker
on Wednesday 5th April 6.30pm – 8.30pm
at Harewood House

Drinks will be served from 6.30 and the Hon Curator will give a short introduction at 7.00, after which we are free to view the exhibition. This is the biggest Chippendale exhibition for over 20 years and has as its centrepiece the newly-restored great State Bed - the most costly piece of furniture Chippendale ever made which has not been seen for over 150 years. There are many loans of newly identified Chippendale furniture from other houses, and the Society has lent the greater part of its own collection. This is bound to be a popular event and tickets are limited, so early booking is advised.

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Please send me.....tickets @ £7 each for the Private View of *The Art of Thomas Chippendale* at Harewood House 5th April 6.30 – 8.30

Name.....

Address.....
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Please make cheques payable to *The Chippendale Society* and send to The Chippendale Society, c/o 74 Riverside Park, Otley, W Yorkshire LS21 2RW WITH A STAMPED ADDRESSED ENVELOPE.

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